

Appln. No. 09/972,749
Reply to Office Action mailed June 5, 2006
Amendment filed September 28, 2006

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-21 are pending in the Application. All of claims 1-21 were rejected in the Office action of June 5, 2006. Claims 1, 4, 9, 10, 11 and 15-21 are amended, and new claims 22-27 are added by this amendment. Claims 1, 10, 15 and 22 are independent claims. Claims 2-9, 11-14, 16-21 and 23-27 depend either directly or indirectly from independent claims 1, 10, 15 and 22, respectively.

The following listing of claims replaces all previous versions, and listings, of claims in the Application.

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1. (Currently amended) In a data communication system having a plurality of mobile transceiver units communicative with a plurality of base transceiver units, one or more circuits comprising:

a network controller intercommunicative between the base transceiver units and one or more host computers for data interchange therebetween, having [[a]] at least one port, wherein each of the at least one port communicates using a selected one of a plurality of different electrical interface standards, and providing software-controllable selection of the one of [[a]] the plurality of different electrical interface standards for communication using said at least one port, based upon user input.

Claim 2. (Previously presented) The one or more circuits of claim 1 wherein
said controller includes means for interconnection of existing installed mobile transceiver units therewith.

Claim 3. (Previously presented) The one or more circuits of claim 2 wherein
said controller communicates with said base transceiver units by an RS232C interface.

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Claim 4. (Currently amended) The one or more circuits of claim 1 wherein
said one or more circuits provide a multiplicity of data communication ports
thereon,

at least two of said communication ports being software-controllable to select
among the plurality of different electrical interface standards.

Claim 5. (Previously presented) The one or more circuits of claim 4 wherein
at least one of said communication ports being communicative with a network of
serially interconnected base transceiver units over a single twisted pair.

Claim 6. (Previously presented) The one or more circuits of claim 1 wherein
at least a portion of said mobile transceiver units are communicative with said
base transceiver units by spread spectrum means.

Claim 7. (Previously presented) The one or more circuits of claim 1 wherein
at least a portion of said mobile transceiver units are communicative with said
base transceiver units by synthesized frequency radio means.

Claim 8. (Previously presented) The one or more circuits of claim 5 wherein
said network of base transceiver units is operable over an RS485 interface.

Claim 9. (Currently amended) The one or more circuits of claim 1 wherein
said network controller providing a multiplicity of data communication ports
thereon,
at least three of said communication ports being software-controllable to select
among the plurality of different electrical interface standards,
at least two of said at least three communication ports being selectively
controllable to communicate by RS232, RS422, RS485, and V.35 means.

Claim 10. (Currently amended) In a data communication system having a multiplicity of mobile portable transceiver units communicative by radio means with base transceiver units, an apparatus for data interchange between said base transceiver units and a host computer comprising:

a housing having a multiplicity of communication ports thereon[[],];

at least three of said communication ports each selectively controllable to provide data interchange using an electrical interface standard selected from a plurality of electrical interface standards comprising an RS232 electrical interface standard and at least one non-RS232 electrical interface standard, based upon user input[[],]; and

at least two of said communication ports each selectively controllable to provide data interchange using [[a]] an electrical interface standard selected from a plurality of electrical interface standards comprising an RS422 electrical interface standard and at least one non-422 electrical interface standard, based upon user input.

Claim 11. (Currently amended) The apparatus of claim 10 wherein,

at least one of said communication ports is selectively controllable to provide data interchange by a V.35 interface.

Claim 12. (Original) The apparatus of claim 10 wherein,

said at least two communication ports are selectively controllable to provide data interchange by a RS485 interface.

Claim 13. (Original) The apparatus of claim 10 wherein more than one host computer may be interconnected to said data communication system.

Claim 14. (Original) The apparatus of claim 10 wherein,

a number of said multiplicity of communication ports are dedicated to interconnection to host computers and the remainder of said communicative parts are interconnectable with base transceiver units.

Claim 15. (Currently amended) [[An]] A data communication system apparatus for capturing, transmitting and processing data, said apparatus including an image capture device and processing and transmitting units for radiating information in the form of electromagnetic waves, a stationary receiver, and a data processor coupled to the stationary receiver, comprising:

a network controller member having a multiplicity of communication ports thereon[[],];

 said network controller member intercommunicative with [[said]] a data processor at one of said communication ports[[],];

 said network controller member intercommunicative with [[said]] a stationary receiver at another of said communication ports[[],]; and

 said network controller member selectively operable with said data processor over the one of said communication ports, the one of said communication ports being software configurable to communicate using a user selectable one of a plurality of different electrical interface standards, based upon user input to said network controller member.

Claim 16. (Currently amended) The apparatus system of claim 15 wherein

 said network controller member is selectively operable with said stationary receiver at one or more communication rates.

Claim 17. (Currently amended) The apparatus system of claim 15 wherein

 said network controller is selectively intercommunicative with a diagnostic device over one of said communication ports.

Claim 18. (Currently amended) The apparatus system of claim 15 wherein further comprising:

 a second data processor associated with said network controller member and intercommunicative therewith.

Claim 19. (Currently amended) The apparatus system of claim 15 wherein

a multiplicity of stationary receivers are intercommunicative with said network controller member.

Claim 20. (Currently amended) The apparatus system of claim 15 wherein said network controller member is selectively operable to communicate with said data processor at more than one data transfer rate.

Claim 21. (Currently amended) The apparatus system of claim 15, wherein the plurality of different electrical interface standards comprises an RS232 standard, an RS422 standard, an RS485 standard, and a V.35 standard.

Claim 22. (New) One or more circuits for use in a network controller, the one or more circuits comprising:

at least one interface enabling receipt of user input; and

at least one processor operably coupled to the at least one interface and to a plurality of data communication ports, the at least one processor operable to, at least,

receive input from a user via the at least one interface, the input identifying one of a plurality of different electrical interface standards,

configure one of the plurality of data communication ports to operate using the user identified electrical interface standard, and

cause exchange of data between the one of the plurality of data communication ports and another of the plurality of data communication ports.

Claim 23. (New) The one or more circuits of claim 22, wherein the plurality of different electrical interface standards are electrically incompatible standards.

Claim 24. (New) The one or more circuits of claim 22, wherein the plurality of different electrical interface standards comprises an RS422 standard and an RS232 standard.

Claim 25. (New) The one or more circuits of claim 22, wherein the plurality of different electrical interface standards comprises an RS485 standard and a V.35 standard.

Claim 26. (New) The one or more circuits of claim 22, wherein the at least one processor is operable to communicate diagnostic information via at least one of the plurality of data communication ports.

Claim 27. (New) The one or more circuits of claim 22, wherein each of the plurality of data communication ports comprises a plurality of electrical signals, and wherein configuration of the one of the plurality of data communication ports comprises the at least one processor causing electrical interconnection of each of the plurality of electrical signals with an associated one of a plurality of conductors of a multiconductor electrical connector, in accordance with the identified one of the plurality of different electrical interface standards.